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11 June 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Charles Johnson, Staff Director, House Post Office and Civil Service Committee re S. 1035

1. On this date I met with Charles Johnson, of the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee staff, for the principal purpose of obtaining a copy of the new bill on the rights of Government employees which Representative Henderson is expected to introduce today. Mr. Johnson had only his personal copy of the typed draft, but he obligingly gave me that copy.
2. During our meeting, several aspects of the current situation with respect to S. 1035 emerged. Mr. Johnson said he had been concerned a short time ago when he learned that Mr. Henderson did not intend to include a full exemption for CIA, NSA and the FBI in his bill. It was apparently at this time that Johnson informed us that we could expect problems. He said he had just learned of Mr. Henderson's very logical reasons for not including these exemptions. He elaborated on this by explaining that Mr. Henderson had reviewed very carefully the floor debate on S. 1035 in the Senate and was most anxious to avoid any similar problems in the House. For this reason he wanted to introduce his bill without security agency exemptions and to develop the rationale for these exemptions in his Subcommittee hearings. This approach would also provide a basis for calling the security agencies before his Subcommittee to explain the reasons for their requested exemption.
3. Mr. Johnson said he was confident that Mr. Henderson would support full exemption from the bill for CIA, NSA and the FBI and would probably go along with an exemption of DIA. He also mentioned that Jack Leahy, of State Department Legislative Liaison, has been in touch with them in an effort to get an exemption for the State Department. The Chairman is not disposed to grant an exemption for State.

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4. Mr. Johnson talked about the provisions of Mr. Henderson's bill which was drafted with the cooperation of the Civil Service Commission, pointing out that in his opinion the bill attempted to seek a proper balance between employee rights and employee obligations. He feels that it is a good bill for the Government generally, but appreciates the problems that it might pose for the Agency, particularly with respect to the sections providing for the use of legal counsel and appeals to the Civil Service Commission.

[Redacted Signature]

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Assistant Legislative Counsel

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